

# Mirror Lake road: Reflections of fall

By Kathryn Clayton

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**K**AMAS — It's a sign of the season. When carloads of Utahns flock to the mountains in late September and early October, you know that autumn, once again, has come of age.

Utahns are lucky enough to have a wide variety of mountain roads to choose from. In fact, it would be hard to go wrong. Just head for the hills. Among the more popular, however, are the Alpine Loop, the Mt. Nebo Loop, Logan Canyon, Boulder Highway, in southern Utah, and the Mirror Lake Road, which eases you over the west end of the Uintas, past numerous alpine lakes and mountain meadows, into the luxurious ranch country of southwestern Wyoming. Here golden aspens shimmer above drying fields of grain.

The Mirror Lake Road gives you scenery that's easy on the eyes and air that's easy on the lungs.

If you're not content to sit and watch the scenery go by, don't worry. There's more to do here than that. Stop at any of the scenic overlooks along the way, including the Provo River Overlook, the Slate Gorge Overlook, and the Provo River Falls Overlook (my favorite), or go fishing or hiking.

The Mirror Lake Highway is an easy day's drive from Kamas to Evans-ton and back to Salt Lake via I-80. I recommend taking the Browns Canyon Road into Peoa, Oakley and then Kamas. It is a short-cut, and you'll find little, if any, traffic. The Browns Canyon Road takes off to the northeast

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**WEEKEND GETAWAY**

DESIGN / CORY MAYLETT



ny, elections were held in only Communist Party candidates were able to appear on the ballot. The results were obvious and the new Communist administration took power, and received, admittance to the Soviet Union.

Many nations, however, including the United States, have not recognized the annexation of Estonia into the Soviet Republic. In fact, the "free" Estonians still have a diplomatic mission in New York City which is recognized by the U.S. government.

Estonians are Finno-Ugrians, an ethnic group primarily composed of Estonians, Finns and Hungarians. Before 2,000 B.C. the Finno-Ugrians sparsely inhabited an immensely large land area. It extended from Poland to the northernmost tip of Finland, and from the Baltic Sea to the Ural Mountains.

Finno-Ugrians share their mother tongue with no one. I'm often asked if the Estonian language is any like Russian and, of course, the answer is no. Russian is actually more closely related to English than Estonian because it belongs to the Indo-European family of languages, as does English.

Currently about 64 percent of the population is Estonian, but Tallinn's population is already at least 50 percent Russian. There is, however, little fraternization between Estonians and Russians and the Soviet immigrants are the subject of many jokes.

Estonia, Tallinn will keep you pleasantly occupied for the duration of your visit. There is much to see and experience in this charming ancient city.

Each part of the city has its own enchanting medieval churches, guilds, monasteries and other buildings surrounded by immense stone walls and towers. What's most interesting is that people still reside in every nook and cranny of this "living museum." That is, it's the best preserved "living" medieval city in northern Europe.

The best time to visit Tallinn is in late June or early July when you can bask in the "midnight sun." Also try to go during a year when the Festival of Song is being held. The next one will take place in July 1990. You won't believe the enormity of this national event. (See related story on page 4.)

I would suggest you take at least two or three full days to experience "old" Tallinn. Walk up to Toompea Hill and see the ancient citadel with its gigantic Pikk Herman (Tall Herman) tower. Visit Dome Church (formerly reserved for nobility) and the very colorful Russian Orthodox Church on the hill. Walk along the upper fortress wall and observe the lower city below and the harbor. Next get immersed in the lower city. Enter through the Viru Gate and turn right and follow the ancient wall around the city until you get back where you started from.

Don't be afraid to explore back al-

able to take in a certain National Men's event. Space is limited and the tickets are the tickets. I will attend a concert by this summer. It began and lasted until 12:30.

A tour of St. Nicholas must (it's now a museum) includes an organ recital by St. Olaf's Choral Society tower surpassing the castle tower in height. In the 15th century, its tower was intended to be an aristocracy who lived in the fortress and resided in power. Before the lower city, take in the Holy Ghost Church (a member of this church is now) and the 13th century and Cistercian which are now museums.

Outside the city tour the huge Piri (1577) and the Olympea and beach in the opposite direction of Tallinn, visit the island museum. Here they




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